

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.(original) A control method for the modulation of the torque of piston combustion engine that has a compression chamber (6) of variable volume and operable inlet valves (3), characterized in that the torque requested for a predetermined operative condition is obtained through a selection of the volume of the compression chamber (6) combined with a selection of the time of opening and the time of closure of the inlet valves (3) combined with a selection of the frequency with which power strokes are performed.

2.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~patent~~ claim 1, characterized in that

- at maximum load, the maximum compression chamber volume is applied,
- upon reduced load, the compression chamber volume is reduced and the closure of the inlet valves (3) is performed earlier, and
- upon a further reduction of the load, the selection of the frequency of power strokes is performed.

3.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~patent-claims 1-or-2~~ claim 1, characterized in that the selection of the frequency of power strokes is performed from idling up to 50% of maximum load.

4.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone-of-the patent-claims 1-3~~ claim 1, characterized in that the outlet valves are operable and that the volume of the compression

chamber (6) is selected in combination with a selection of the times for opening and closure of the inlet valves (3) as well as the outlet valves (4) and in combination with the selection of the frequency by which the power strokes are performed.

5.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~ ~~claims 1-4~~ claim 1, characterized in that the engine has a plurality of cylinders (1) and that a different frequency of power strokes are chosen for different cylinders (1).

6.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~ ~~claims 1-5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the power strokes are performed with early closure of the inlet valves (3).

7.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~ ~~claims 4-6~~ claim 4, characterized in that the power strokes are performed with delayed opening of the outlet valves (4).

8.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~ ~~claims 1-7~~ claim 1, characterized in that the volume of the compression chamber (6) is controlled to be 20%-80% of the maximum volume thereof as the frequency of power strokes is selected.

9.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~ ~~claims 1-7~~ claim 1, characterized in that the volume of the compression chamber (6) is 30%-50% of the maximum volume thereof as the frequency of power strokes is selected.

10.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~ ~~claims 1-9~~ claim 1, characterized in that, at each power stroke, upon a predetermined number of revolutions per minute, which is independent of the torque, generally equal masses of air and

fuel, and generally the same proportion of air and fuel is ignited as in the other power strokes.

11.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~anyone of~~
~~claims 4-10~~ claim 4, characterized in that 2-stroke cycles or 4-
stroke cycles are selected upon a bases of the required torque,
and that the power strokes are performed in 2-stroke cycles as
well as 4-stroke cycles.

12.(currently amended) A control method according to ~~patent~~ claim
1, characterized in that comprises a control system (8) with a
computer program that, by signal control upon basis of a torque
request from driver, selects frequency of power strokes, valve
times, lifting of the valve, the volume of the compression
chamber (6) and operation with 2-stroke cycles or 4-stroke
cycles.